Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:TGEN, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR WORLD OCEANS AGREEMENT (06)

- 1. REQUEST EMBASSY ADVISE METALNIKOV THAT MARTINEAU WILL BE CALLING HIM LATE AFTERNOON (MOSCOW TIME) ON FRIDAY, MARCH 11, CONCERNING STATUS OF POLYMODE LIAISON SCIENTIST EXCHANGE AND FOR INFORMATION NECESSARY TO PLAN THE THIRD JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING.
- 2. BEGIN FYI: AS EMBASSY AWARE, QUESTION OF EXCHANGE OF LIAISON SCIENTISTS HAS LONG REMAINED POINT OF DISAGREEMENT IN US-USSR POLYMODE RELATIONS. US POLYMODE SCIENTISTS HAVE CONSIDERED ESTABLISHMENT OF LIAISON EXCHANGE AND TELETYPE LINK BETWEEN THE TWO POLYMODE HEADQUARTERS AS VITAL TO THE EFFECTIVE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF JOINT POLYMODE OPERALIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIONS. AFTER WELL OVER A YEAR OF NEGOTIATION, INCLUDING APPEALS TOIDORENKO FROM WHITE, ISSUES APPEARED TO BE RESOLVED.

3. IN DECEMBER A TELEX LINK (NOT THE FULL TIME TELETYPE LINK DESIRED BY THE US) WAS ESTABLISHED BETWEEN SOVIET POLYMODE OFFICE AT SHIRSHOV INSTITUTE AND US POLYMODE OFFICE

AT MIT OFFERING TO BOTH SIDES THE POSSIBILITY OF CARRYING OUT RELATIVELY SPEEDY OPERATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS. MOREOVER,

DURING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARTINEAU'S VISIT TO THE USSR, SIDORENKO ASSURED MARTINEAU THAT THE LIAISON SCIENTIST EXCHANGE WOULD FINALLY BE RESOLVED AND THAT THE FIRST EXCHANGE OF SCIENTISTS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN LATE FEBRUARY/EARLY MARCH.

- 4. HOWEVER, THE SOVIET POLYMODE DELEGATION, WHEN IN THE US IN JANUARY FOR A PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING, ANNOUNCED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO LIAISON SCIENTIST EXCHANGE UNTIL PROGRAM ACTUALLY UNDERWAY (LATE SUMMER OR FALL) AFTER ALL. ALSO, SINCE EARLY FEBRUARY THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT RESPONDED AT ALL TO US TELEX MESSAGES NOR HAVE THEY INITIATED ANY MESSAGES OF THEIR OWN. EFFORTS TO CLARIFY SITUATION VIA PREVIOUS CALLS TO METALNIKOV HAVE PROVED FRUITLESS; MARTINEAU WILL TRY AGAIN DURING FRIDAY'S CONVERSATION.
- 5. DEPARTMENT AND NOAA UNCERTAIN AS TO REASONS WHY SOVIET DECISIONS ARE NOT STICKING. THEIR BUREAUCRACY APPEARS TO BE SPLIT ON ISSUE ESPECIALLY ON MATTER OF LIAISON SCIENTIST EXCHANGE BUT SEEMING INABILITY TO RESOLVE MATTER AFTER SIDORENKO REVIEW IS PUZZLING. PENDING RESULTS OF MARTINEAU CALL, WE WOULD NOT ASK EMBASSY TO DISCUSS FOREGOING ISSUES WITH SOVIETS, ALTHOUGH ANY INSIGHT YOU MAY HAVE ON THE BASIS OF EXPERIENCE TO DATE WOULD BE WELCOME. END FYI VANCE

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